

San Diego DX Club Bulletin

November 2022



Thanks to Phil Gildersleeve

MEETING PROGRAM

Our presenter will be Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA on the subject of
"10m Long Path & Update on Cycle 25."

MEETING NOTICE

The November, 2022 meeting of the SDDXC will be held on Wednesday,
November 23rd at 6:30 P.M. PST on Zoom only.

NO IN PERSON MEETING THIS MONTH DUE TO THANKSGIVING SCHEDULING.

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President:

Miguel Rivera, KJ6YXI

Rivera1pet315@gmail.com

Vice President/Pgm Chair:

Tom Myrick, N6JOJ

<n6joj1@gmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer:

Randy Standke, KQ6RS

(619) 890-2697

r55stan@gmail.com

Past President:

Pat Bunsold, WA6MHZ

Board of Directors:

Lou Poanessa, KW6Q

Bob LaRose, W6ACU

Danny Floyd, WB6FWS

Contest Results:

John Barcroft, K6AM

k6am@arrl.net

"TOP 10":

Glen Christensen, AI6RR

iam.gchrist@gmail.com

Webmaster:

Glen Christensen, AI6RR

Historian:

Glenn Rattmann, K6NA

(760) 749-3936

k6na@cts.com

Bulletin Editor:

Bob Farkaly, K9RHY

(619) 602-2653

bob@farkaly.com

From the Prez . . .

Miguel, KJ6YXI

Topic: SDDXC November, 2022 Meeting

Our November 23rd meeting **WILL NOT** be at Elijah's Restaurant. They need the room for Thanksgiving. We have our Holiday Party in December and will resume in-person meetings at Elijah's in January.

This meeting will be on Zoom only

Time: Nov 23, 2022 06:30 P.M. Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83243953207?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83243953207?pwd=OWh5a1Qxd2hZQTUyVUVhdENUUVJUQT09)

[pwd=OWh5a1Qxd2hZQTUyVUVhdENUUVJUQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83243953207?pwd=OWh5a1Qxd2hZQTUyVUVhdENUUVJUQT09)

Meeting ID: 832 4395 3207

Passcode: 235408

Miguel, KJ6YXI

Secretary/Treasurer Reports

Randy, KQ6RS

SDDXC Meeting Minutes, October 26, 2022

Our October meeting was held in person at Elijah's Restaurant and on Zoom. Fourteen members attended (11 in person and three on Zoom). We had no guests this time.

At 6:34 P.M. Danny Floyd, WB6FWS called the meeting to order.

Announcements: The Holiday Party will be held on December 18th. The November meeting will only be on Zoom because Elijah's Restaurant will be holding a Thanksgiving event on our November meeting day.

There was no new or old business.

The presentation this month was given by Bud Hennessy, AE6BH, of a slide deck from Hans Emmenegger, AE6XG on "Communication Systems in the Congo."

At 7:53 P.M. the meeting adjourned.

Treasurer's Report

Income for October: none

Expenses for October: none

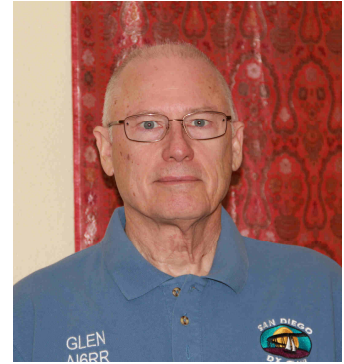
Balance on 11/8/2022 was \$5,298.10



Randy, KQ6RS

SDDXC DX STANDINGS

Glenn, AI6RR



Standings are always available on the SDDXC website at
[San Diego DX Club \(sddxc.org\)](http://sddxc.org)

Glenn, AI6RR

SDDXC Contest Results

John, K6AM



SDDXC RESULTS 2022 ARRL DX SSB CONTEST

CLASS	CALL	SCORE	QSO'S	MLTS	FINISH
MS	ZF1A (K6AM K6JO NN1C ops)	8,885,475	8,652	345	#1 WORLD
MS	NX6T (ops N6ERD N6KI W6ZAR K7ENA WQ6X @WA6TQT)	1,326,672	1,555	296	#2 SW DIV, #7 US/VE
SOU HP	W6YI	1,125,690	1,219	314	#2 SW DIV
SO HP	K6NA	183,876	404	154	#6 SW DIV
SO HP	W6JBR	20,349	122	57	
SO LP	W6ZAR	7,980	74	38	

John, K6AM

From the Editor

Bob, K9RHY

Joining the DXCC Honor Roll in 2022



In July 2022, I wrote a short piece about the increasing rarity of some DXCC entities. At that time, I speculated about the growing challenge of achieving DXCC Honor Roll status in 2022 and beyond.

A few weeks later, I was delighted to learn that a great friend and DXer, Bob Loving, K9JU, had just achieved this significant milestone. I asked Bob to collect and document his thoughts about a life-time of DXing and his entry into the Honor Roll. Bob was kind enough to respond to my request and provided me with the following letter describing how he became an Honor Roll member in these difficult times.

A "Tip of the Hat" to Bob for developing this outstanding retrospective:

"Hi, this is Bob, K9JU, from the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains of the Appalachian Mountain Range.

Until moving to Tennessee in 2015, I spent the better part of 73-years in the Chicago area (Cook County). Most of the time I lived and operated from the suburbs of Chicago, not in the city itself.

Thanks to Popular Electronics and Herb Brier's (W9EGQ-SK) column "The Transmitting Tower," I earned my Novice Class FCC license, call KN9JU, in September 1957, nine days before Sputnik was launched. I upgraded to General Class in 1958 April becoming K9JU. Along with 5 other colleagues from work, I upgraded to Amateur Extra Class in 1975 and changed my call to K9JU in 1977 for contests and DX pileups.

My operating interests started with rag chewing followed by contesting and DXing, all on CW. Lately, my main interest is DX. And, on top of my DX-only obsession, I am an advocate for Dr. Joe Taylor and his WSJT-X development group suite's FT8 and FT4 modes. I've done the weak signals CW thing on 80M and 160M in the past. At my age, I'd rather stare at the computer screen and search and pounce with a double click than strain old ears and an old brain! However, it is still fun to get into a CW pileup and test one's mettle chasing a new band/country for the DXCC Challenge Award.

Like so many DXers, my pursuit of DX started with the basic DXCC award. Most of 5BDXCC was achieved during my years in the Chicago area. With my relocation to TN and a much more RF quiet area, I finished 80M DXCC for 5BDXCC, followed with the WARC bands of 30M, 17M and 12M endorsements. My present concentration is 160M where the low noise level I now enjoy definitely helps.

In September 2022 an FT8 contact with 4W/JH2EUV was number 331 to put K9JU on the DXCC Honor Roll. Of the 331 contacts the last 5 were, in date to the present: S21ZEE (Bangladesh) 2017 March 21 20M SSB (there is magic at the equinoxes); SV2RSG/A (Mt. Athos) 2021 July 24 20M CW (fantastic CW operator); 9N7AA 2022 April 24 17M FT8; VK0MQ (Macquarie Island) 2022 June 18 30M FT8; and 4W/JH2EUV, (East Timor) 2022 September 16 20M FT8.

All of you who have achieved DXCC Honor Roll know the elation when the last contact is made and when it is finally confirmed. Thank you Satoshi, 4W/JH2EUV and LoTW that helped me to finally make the DXCC HR milestone.

The bulk of my DXCC contacts over 65-years on the air were with various pieces of RL Drake equipment. In 2018, I used a modified TR7 (I was an RF engineer) on FT8 until Fox and Hound (DXpedition mode) opened my eyes. That is when my Icom IC-7300 became the go to radio. I admit, CAT is nice and I highly recommend a rig with the feature for any WSJT-X mode of operation as well as logging, etc. My present station is the IC-7300, an Acom 1200S amplifier, a Tennadyne T-8 Log Periodic Dipole Array (20M through 10M inclusive) and a 80M dipole center fed with 300-Ohm ladder line to a 4:1 balun and an MFJ 994BRT Autotuner at the base of a 43' Rohn 25 tower. The tower was part of the deal to buy the house.

How much power have I used to make DX contacts? Whatever it takes! Sending a signal out of the Tennessee River Valley is difficult. (Trust me on this: DXing from TN is not unlike DXing from the "Black Hole" of Illinois – and very unlike the great propagation we enjoy in the San Diego area - Ed.) One of the nice aspects of FT8/FT4 is a closer to real signal report than the phony baloney "5NN" or "59" of traditional modes. I consistently receive lower signal reports than I send. With respect to FT8/FT4, I guarantee I do not use QRP to an underground antenna. WSJT-X was invented for weak signal communications; the "Valley of the Jolly Green Giant Attenuator" of the TN River Valley qualifies for the use of higher than QRP levels desired by the inventors.

I look forward to a future filled with advances in technology in both the equipment, computer/equipment interfaces and the enhancements to modes of operation. DXing will be with us although some entities may become impossible to activate for #1 Honor Roll either due to difficulty of doing so or political or religious reasons. However, there are sufficient entities that should allow anyone willing to spend time in front of the rig, watching a spotting network to claw the way to the lower rung(s) of DXCC Honor Roll.

The hardest entities I was able to confirm is a difficult question to answer because thankfully a lot of DXers use LoTW. Of the last five, S21ZEE (Bangladesh) and SV2RSG/A (Mt. Athos) weren't difficult to work, but I had to wait for QSL cards and have them checked.

Logbook of The World (LoTW) is a definite plus to the art of QSLing. With the recent pandemic interruptions and delays in mail services around the world, QSLing has become rather difficult. Some countries no longer support QSL Bureaus. The ARRL Outgoing QSL Bureau ships only twice a year at present. Direct QSLs are relatively expensive and there is no guarantee you will ever receive a return card. Who knows what the situation will be going forward?

For budding DXers and DXers clawing their way to the top, I have a couple of suggestions: 1) do not ignore any modes of communications. I would not have 9N7AA, VK0MQ and 4W/JH2EUV in the log if I had not used FT8; and 2) become a user of Logbook of The World (LoTW).

I used computer assistance (for FT8 and CW) and DX Bulletin assistance (W3UR's Daily DX, ARRL DX Bulletin, 425 DX News and DX News, and dxsummit.fi for spotting). My hardest entities to work (the last five!) may seem unbelievable, but I have most of the Top 15. However, as may be expected I do need P5, 3Y/B, BS7H, BV9P, ZS8, YK, XU, XW and XZ.

I'll stick with DXing because, according to Cezar, VE3LYC, 2023 will definitely start with a bang, given that both Bouvet and Crozet islands, currently ranked #2 and #3 on the DXCC Most Wanted List, are expected to be on the air early on.

Before signing off, let me make a few comments in favor of the digital modes, especially FT8 and FT4. First, consider how many countries require knowledge of Morse Code to obtain an Amateur Radio license? Not many if any at all. I don't believe it is a dying art as I will operate the mode when either required or desired. Second, what about phone operation? Consider a brand new ham in a foreign country with limited knowledge of English. What are his/her chances of making successful DX contacts right off the bat? Probably between slim and none. Here is where digital comes to the rescue. Most contacts made by us DXers are "hello, goodbye, please QSL," right? Send "5NN", shout "59" into a microphone or let preprogrammed "macros" in CW and voice keyers do the work. To me there are virtually no differences between those operations and the canned macros of WSJT-X. So, add WSJT-X or another suite of digital modes to your box of DXing tools.

73 and Good DX,
Bob Loving K9JU
Maryville, TN

Thanks, Bob for these great insights. This letter from you should be an inspiration for DXers to keep at it. The Honor Roll is within your reach!

And SDDXC Members, this will be the final edition of the SDDXC Bulletin for 2022. I am following the tradition of taking December off to spend time with my family. The SDDXC Bulletin will be back in January, 2023. Happy Holidays too all and we look forward to seeing you in the New Year!

Very 73 and Great DX,

Bob, K9RHY

SDDXC Holiday Lunch ~ Sunday, December 18, 2022, 1:00—4:00 P.M.

The traditional San Diego DX Club Holiday Lunch is on again!! We are looking forward to seeing all of you on **Sunday, December 18, 2022, at 1:00 P.M. at Fiddler's Green** in Point Loma.

As in past years, we will once again have exclusive use of the entire restaurant for the members of our club and our guests: Quality food, PA system, great acoustics (one of the few restaurants where you can talk comfortably in a normal voice), plenty of free parking and, of course, a door prize drawing!

The meal with beverage (soft drinks, coffee, etc.) cost is \$35.00 per person (including tax & tip, although extra tipping is always appreciated). This year the club will pay the full \$35 cost per person. Therefore, attendees only have to pay for any alcohol they consume.

Please let us know if you are coming and choose your entrée and soup/salad selection (lots of great choices!) on the RSVP web page. Please make a selection for each person who will attend.

RSVP LINK: <https://sddxparty2022.rsvpify.com>

Note – if you have already signed up on a paper form in the past, please use the above link. You won't be counted twice, and the paper form did not record your meal choice.

Then, come prepared with cash or credit card to cover any alcohol, special orders or extra tip.

There will be an optional gift exchange also, so bring something < \$10 if you'd like to join in on the fun.

HOPE TO SEE YOU ON DECEMBER 18!!

MENU CHOICES

1: Grilled Steak Kabob with Peppers Mushrooms and Onions, served with Fresh Garden Vegetables and Mashed Potatoes.

2: Grilled Fresh Salmon served with Fresh Garden Vegetables and Rice Pilaf.

3: Grilled Chicken Cabob served with Fresh Garden Vegetables and Rice Pilaf.

4. Grilled Portobello Mushroom Meal served with Fresh Garden Vegetables and Rice Pilaf.

All entrées served with your choice of Caesar Salad or Cup of New England Style Clam Chowder and Sour Dough Rolls.

DESSERT: Brownie Sundae with Whipped cream and Nuts

BEVERAGES: Iced Tea, Coffee, Water and Soft Drinks / No Host Beer Wine and Cocktails available

3YØJ - The Bouvet Island 2023 DXpedition

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/3093983840726129>

3YØJ PROPAGATION POLL - STATION CONFIGURATION

We launch a poll to prepare for not only working the Big Guns but to better understand when and if we succeed to work the small pistols.

PLEASE give your callsign or your POLL will be deleted!

Access the poll at our website [Latest News | 3YØJ DXpedition](#)

By participating in this poll you intend to provide 3YØJ with information about your station setup to aid 3YØJ to understand what your station configuration looks like. Please give as accurate information as possible. When you work 3YØJ we will get info about what category you belong to. The information will only be used to display to the operators once you work them what category you belong to - so for them to get a better view of the propagation

Dear Fellow IOTA Chasers,

I am very grateful to many of you who supported various expeditions that I was part of, and who also shared their stories by ordering this book. Please allow me to remind everyone that the book is once again available for order, and ask you kindly to share the information with your friends who are not members of this forum. It's dedicated website is at <https://ve3lyc-book.weebly.com>. In view of the upcoming winter holiday season, perhaps some will consider treating themselves and/or their friends with some captivating stories, hi.

Kind regards,

Cezar, VE3LYC

Some DX-Related Websites You Can Try

ARRL DX - <http://www.arrl.org/bulletins>

DX World - <https://dx-world.net/?s=bulletin>

DXNL - <https://www.darc.de/der-club/referate/dx/en/dxn/>

DX Summit - <http://www.dxsummit.fi/#/>

DX News - <https://dxnews.com/>

NG3K - <https://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>

ON4KST Chatrooms - <http://www.on4kst.com/chat/start.php>

Ham Alert - <https://hamalert.org>

JT Alert - <https://hamapps.com/>

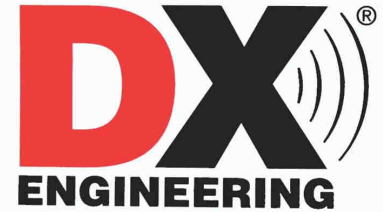
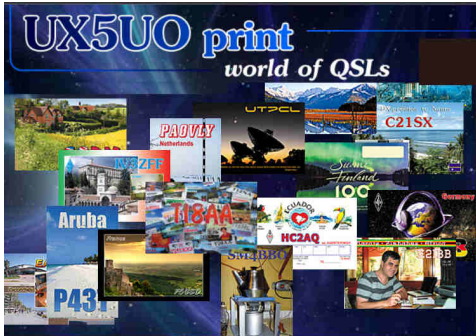
PSK Reporter - <https://pskreporter.info>

Reverse Beacons - <http://www.reversebeacon.net/>

DX Maps – <https://www.dxmaps.com>

Many Thanks to our Supporters, Friends and Sponsors

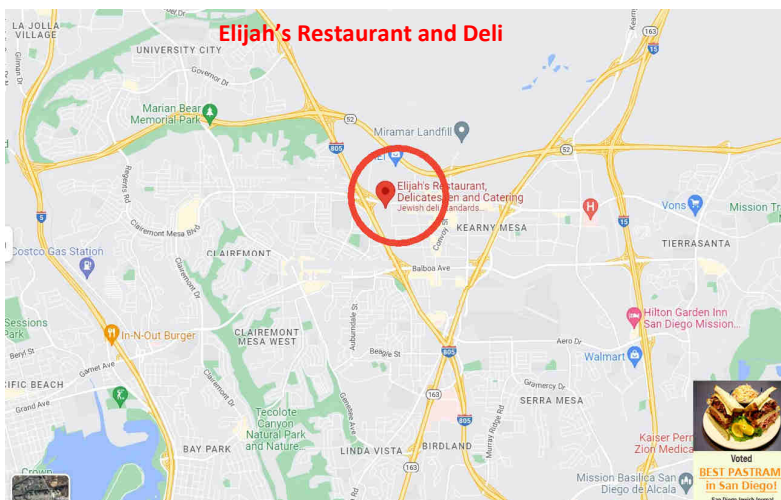
We are pleased to recognize the many businesses that help contribute to the success and vitality of the SDDXC



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